





Thanksgiving Sunday
October 11th, 2020

Land Acknowledgement

In this holy time and place,
we acknowledge with respect
that we gather on the
traditional, ancestral territories
of the Mohawk and Abenaki
first peoples.

**May the living Christ lead us
always on pathways of
reconciliation and peace.**



Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

2 All the world is God's own field,
fruit as praise to God we yield;
wheat and tares together sown
are to joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take the harvest home;
from the field shall in that day
all offenses purge away,
giving angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast;
but the fruitful ears to store
in the garner evermore.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come,
bring thy final harvest home;
gather thou thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in thy presence to abide;
come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home.



Opening Sentences

You send forth your Spirit, O Lord; * you renew the face of the earth.
You send forth your Spirit, O Lord; * you renew the face of the earth.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
You renew the face of the earth.

All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.
You renew the face of the earth.

You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
You renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
You renew the face of the earth.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
You send forth your Spirit, O Lord; * you renew the face of the earth.



Our Confession

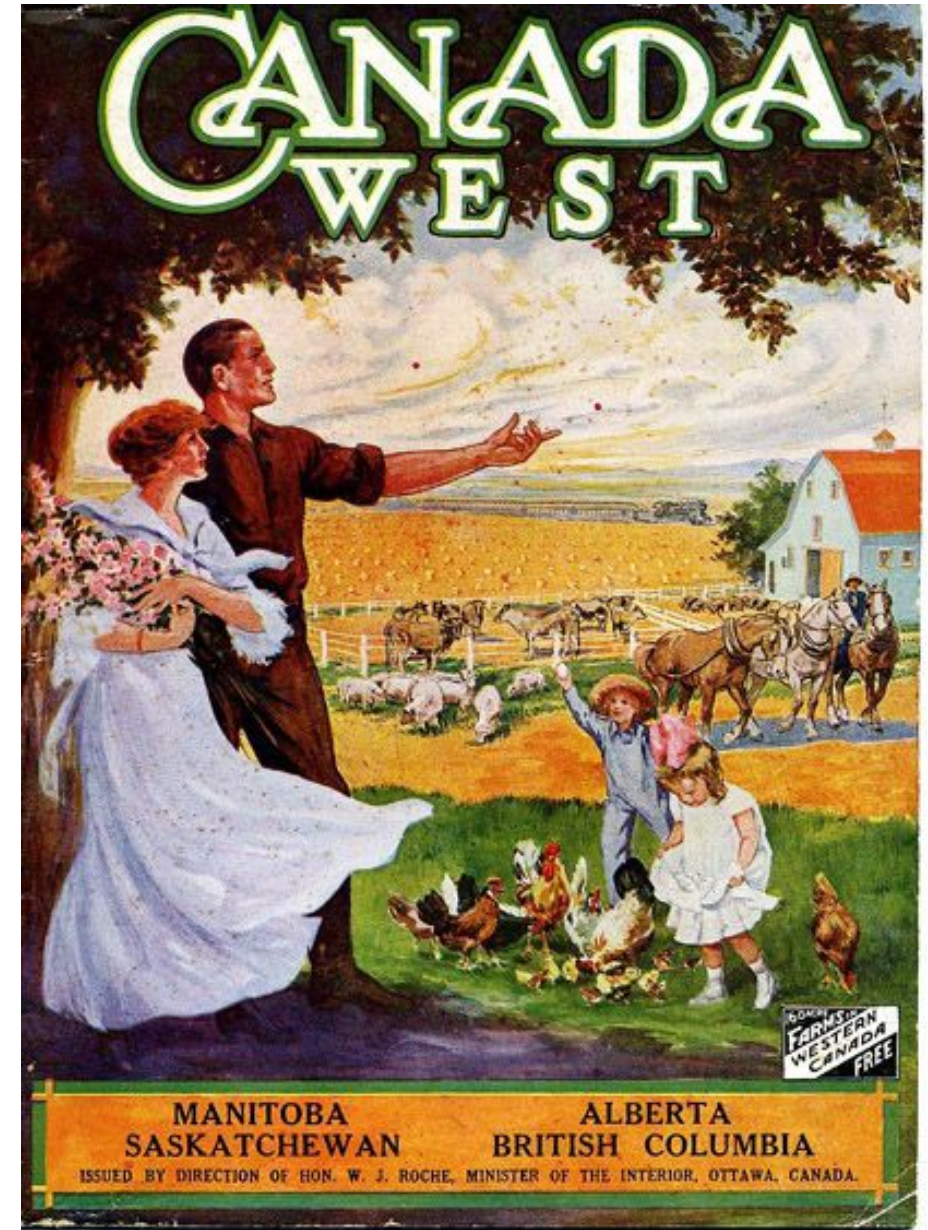
Let us come before Almighty God with open hearts seeking forgiveness and reconciliation.

Almighty God, we have entered the land that flows with streams, rivers and great lakes. A land that gives food in abundance. We have become wealthy and fed our families and built cities and towns. We confess to you that this has often been at the expense of the First Peoples, the land, the water and the air. We have not thought the land worthy of our care. We have not honored our words to the Indigenous Peoples. And in our deeds, we have not shared the abundance that is meant for all.

We are truly sorry and pray that we repent with new thoughts, words and deeds, that show our delight in creation, respect for one another and care for the land.

May the Creator have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and lead us in the life that that brings the harvest to all, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Deuteronomy 8:7-18

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth."

But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.



Psalm 65

Unison



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Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be performed.

You give heed to prayer; to you all mortals shall come.
The burden of our sins is too great for us,
but you will purge them away. R

Blessed are the people you choose
and bring to dwell in your courts.

We shall be filled with the blessings of your house, your holy temple.
With awesome deeds you answer our prayers for deliverance.
O God our saviour —

you that are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the far-off seas.

By your strength you make fast the mountains,
and gird yourself round with power.

You still the raging of the seas,
and the roaring of the waves, the tumult of the peoples.

Those who dwell at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your wonders,
the gateways of both morning and evening shout for joy. R

You visit the earth and water it,
you make it very fruitful.

The waters of heaven brim over their banks,
providing us with grain, for so you have prepared the land,
drenching its furrows, settling its ridges,
softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

You crown the year with goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

The pastures of the wilderness abound with grass,
and the hills are girded with joy.

The fields are clothed with sheep;
the valleys are decked with wheat,
so that they shout and sing for joy. R



2 Corinthians 9:6-15

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!



from **The Canticle of the Creatures** - St. Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord,
Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and the all blessing,
To You alone, Most High, do they belong,
and no human is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who is the day and through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor;
and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind,
and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather,
through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,
who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night, and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.
Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth,
who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks
and serve Him with great humility.



For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts of every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.



Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean.

Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."





The 2020 garlic harvest at Phil's farm, Stanbridge East
Sermon by the Rev. Tyson L. Røsberg



An Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God the Father,
God Almighty by whose plan,
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.
We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary,
upon whom the Spirit came.

Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
'till as judge he comes again.

We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
Saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord, and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.



Thanksgiving Litany

(Let us give thanks to God always and for everything, saying, “We thank you, Lord.”)

For the beauty and wonder of creation,

We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women,
revealing the image of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food, for our homes and families and friends,

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think and hearts to love,

We thank you, Lord.

For health, strength, and skill to work, and for leisure to rest and play,

We thank you, Lord.

For those who are brave and courageous, patient in suffering,
and faithful in adversity,

We thank you, Lord.

For all who pursue peace, justice, and truth,

We thank you, Lord.

[Today we give thanks especially for . . . **We thank you, Lord.**]

For (. . . and) all the saints whose lives have reflected the light of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.



Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts
we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**



**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

**Notre Père qui es aux cieux,
que ton nom soit sanctifié,
que ton règne vienne,
que ta volonté soit faite
sur la terre comme au ciel.
Donne-nous aujourd'hui
notre pain de ce jour.
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,
comme nous pardonnons aussi
à ceux qui nous ont offensés.
Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation,
mais délivre-nous du Mal.
Car c'est à Toi qu'appartiennent le Règne,
la puissance et la gloire aux siècles des siècles.
Amen.**



Oh, the Lord's been good to me.
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need:
The sun, the rain and the appleseed;
Oh, the Lord's been good to me.

Oh, and every seed I sow
Will grow into a tree.
And someday there'll be apples there
For everyone in the world to share.
Oh, the Lord is good to me.

Johnny Appleseed, (clap) Amen.



JOHNNY APPLESEED.

John Chapman (September 26, 1774 – March 18, 1845), better known as Johnny Appleseed, was an American pioneer nurseryman who introduced apple trees to large parts of Pennsylvania, Ontario, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, as well as the northern counties of present-day West Virginia. He became an American legend while still alive, due to his kind, generous ways, his leadership in conservation, and the symbolic importance he attributed to apples.

He was also a missionary for The New Church (Swedenborgian] and the inspiration for many museums and historical sites such as the Johnny Appleseed Museum in Urbana, Ohio, and the Johnny Appleseed Heritage Center in Ashland County, Ohio.

The Collect

Creator of the fruitful earth, you made us stewards of all things
Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness, and steadfast wills to use your bounty well,
that the whole human family, today, and in generations to come,
may with us give thanks for the riches of your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.



Closing Prayers

May the Warm Winds of Heaven blow softly upon your house.

May the Great Spirit bless all who enter there.

May your Mocassins make happy tracks in many snows,
and may the Rainbow always touch your shoulder.

- Cherokee Prayer Blessing

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

**Glory to God whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:**

**Glory to God from generation to generation
in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.**

Amen

Ephesians 3:20,21



1 We plow the fields and scatter

the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand.
He sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain:

All good gifts around us
are sent from heav'n above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
for all his love.

2 He only is the Maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
the wind and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread. [Refrain]

3 We thank you, then, O Father,
for all things bright and good:
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food;
no gifts have we to offer
for all your love imparts,
but that which you desire now:
our humble, thankful hearts! [Refrain]

*All good gifts
around us are sent
from heaven above*





This afternoon at 1 pm, **online memorial service** for the **Venerable Wally Sparling**.

Wally served as a priest and archdeacon throughout our region for many years.